I. Course Description

The primary purpose of this course is to offer an overview of the field of international relations. It is designed to introduce basic theories and contemporary issues and problems in international relations. The first half of the course will examine major theoretical approaches and their critiques in the field of international relations, such as realism, liberalism, and constructivism. The second half of the course will discuss several contemporary issues and problems in international relations. Topics include: security dilemma and war; international cooperation; international trade; international financial and monetary relations; poverty and development; foreign aid; and transnational and transgovernmental actors.

II. Prerequisites and Background

The course materials are designed for graduate students with some previous coursework in political science, international relations, and/or economics, although there are no prerequisites for the course.

NOTE: This course is only for full-time GSIS students. No exchange students can enroll this class.

III. Course Format

The format of this course will be based on a combination of lecture and seminar. The first part of the course will be mostly lectured by the instructor and the second part will be based on the format of lectures, seminars, and student presentations. In order to facilitate engaging classroom atmosphere, students are required to read the assigned materials in advance. “Cold calls” may sometimes be used.

IV. Textbooks and Reading Assignments

There are no required textbooks for this course. The instructor will post the assigned readings on the course eTL. Please check the course eTL.
For those who do not have any prior coursework in international relations, please check the following basic IR textbooks. You can purchase them from amazon or other bookstores. The instructor will not provide any copy materials on these textbooks.

- Phil Williams, Donald M. Goldstein, and Jay M. Shafritz, eds., *Classic Readings and Contemporary Debates in International Relations*, 3rd ed. (Belmont: Wadsworth, 2005).

V. Grading Policy and Evaluation

1) Attendance and class participation: 10%
2) Weekly response paper: 20%
3) Group presentation: 10%
4) Midterm exam: 25%
5) Final exam: 35%

A. Course Requirements

(1) Attendance and class participation: 10%
Attendance at all classes is mandatory. Students’ active class participation is strongly encouraged and expected. Not only quantity, but also quality of participation will be critically evaluated. Meanwhile, the instructor will not allow any dominance of class debates and discussions by few students. Two latenesses (showing up more than 15 minutes late) or departures (without any prior notice to the instructor or TA) will be counted as one absence. Three absences (without valid excuse) will lead to a failure of the course.

(2) Weekly response paper: 20% (10 discussion question in total, 2% per each)
Beginning week 3, students are required to submit a one page long weekly response paper to the course eT 24 hours before the class (i.e., by Tuesday 9:30am). The response paper should be based on the assigned reading of the given week, NOT the assigned reading of the prior week.

The first few sentences of the paper should be composed of a very concise summary of each reading assignment (one or two sentences per each reading). Then, students should write down their thoughts, comments, critique, and/or questions based on the reading. Keep the page limit. No longer than one page (in single-spaced, approximately 300-350 words).

Please submit a weekly discussion question with the format of MS word file, NOT PDF file. Teaching assistant will collect students’ weekly response papers, and circulate them to the class before each lecture, but with no student’s name. Any late submission will not be accepted, except for medical or family emergencies. Both quantity and quality of the summary, comments, critique and/or discussion questions will be evaluated by the instructor.
**NOTE:** The instructor will submit all writing assignments to turnitin.com in order to check for a possible sign of plagiarism.

(3) **Group presentation: 10%**
All students are required to participate in one of the group presentations during the second half of the semester (from week 8). Each team is expected to choose specific policy cases or historical/contemporary international affairs, which would fit well with the thematic topic of the given week, and to analyze the policy cases or international affairs in order to support or criticize the reading discussed in class. Every team member should make a contribution to the group presentation. **No free riders will be allowed.**

The instructor will “randomly” assign students to each presentation team. Each group should prepare for ppt presentation slides and upload their presentation files to the course eTL 24 hours in advance (i.e., Tuesday 9:30am). No show-up for the week responsible for group presentation will result in a zero point for this assignment.

Each group presentation will be also evaluated by other classmates, and students’ feedback will be collected and handed over to the group for references.

(4) **Midterm exam: 25%**
There will be an in-class midterm exam on October 16th (Wednesday). The midterm will consist of several essay questions, and it will cover the course materials during the first half of the semester (from week 2 to week 5).

(5) **Final exam: 35%**
There will be an in-class final exam on December 11th (Wednesday). The final will consist of several essay questions, and it will cover the second half of the semester (from week 8 to week 14).

**B. Make-up and Lateness Policies**
Except “documented” family or medical emergencies, there will be no make-up exams or assignment extension provided in this course. **Routine doctor’s appointment (e.g., flu or cold) does not qualify as medical emergencies.** If students need to take a make-up exam for family or medical emergencies, it is students’ responsibility to contact the instructor and schedule a make-up exam within a week from the originally designated exam or assignment due.

**C. Laptop and Cell Phone Policy**
Students can use their own laptops for note taking in class, yet web browsing, on-line chatting, and/or other course-unrelated activities will NOT be allowed. No cell phone use (including phone call, texting message, and/or phone applications) will be permitted during the class. Any violations will directly affect attendance and participation grades.

**D. Academic Honesty**
Any plagiarism or academic dishonesty will be severely punished. It will result in a failing grade and an official report to the Graduate School of International Studies. If students cite
from other people’s books, articles, or written/verbal materials, they should provide proper citations in writing materials for all quotations, paraphrases, and ideas taken from any source other than their own original thoughts. Regarding academic misconduct, please refer to the university’s guideline on the principle of research ethics.

**E. Accommodation Policy**

Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact the instructor personally as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate students’ educational opportunities.

**VI. Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>METHOD</th>
<th>ETC.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction and Course Overview</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>History and Foundations of International Relations</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Realism, Neorealism, and Its Critiques</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Liberalism, Neoliberalism, and Its Critiques</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Constructivism and Socialization</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>No Class</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>National Holiday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Midterm Exam</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>In-Class Midterm</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>International Security (II): International Cooperation</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>International Political Economy (I): International Trade</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>International Political Economy (II): International Financial &amp; Monetary Relations</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>International Economic Inequality (I): Poverty and Development</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>International Economic Inequality (II): Foreign Aid</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Transnational and Transgovernmental Actors</td>
<td>Lecture/</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>In-Class Final</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
<Course Schedule and Reading Assignments>

Note: I may make some minor changes regarding reading assignments and course schedule.

Week 1 (September 4): Introduction and Course Overview

No reading assignments

PART I: THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Week 2 (September 11): History and Foundations of International Relations


(Recommended):


Week 3 (September 18): Realism, Neorealism, and Its Critiques


(Recommended):
Kenneth N. Waltz, *Man, the State, and War: A Theoretical Analysis* (New York, NY:


**Week 4 (September 25): Liberalism, Neoliberalism, and Its Critiques**


(Recommended):


**Week 5 (October 2): Constructivism and Socialization**


(Recommended):

**Week 6 (October 9): No Class**

*** National Holiday ***

**Week 7 (October 16): Midterm Exam**

*** In-Class Midterm Exam ***

**PART II: ISSUES AND PROBLEMS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**Week 8 (October 23): International Security (I)-Security Dilemma and War**


(Recommended):


*** Student Presentations to be Added ***

**Week 9 (October 30): International Security (II)-International Cooperation**


Christopher Hemmer and Peter J. Katzenstein, “Why is There No NATO in Asia? Collective

(Recommended):


*** Student Presentations to be Added ***

Week 10 (November 6): International Political Economy (I)-International Trade


(Recommended):


*** Student Presentations to be Added ***

Week 11 (November 13): International Political Economy (II)-International Financial and Monetary Relations


(Recommended):


*** Student Presentations to be Added ***

**Week 12 (November 20): International Economic Inequality (I)-Poverty and Development**


(Recommended):


*** Student Presentations to be Added ***

**Week 13 (November 27): International Economic Inequality (II)-Foreign Aid**


(Recommended):
Finn Tarp, “Aid, Growth, and Development,” in George Mavrotas, ed., *Foreign Aid for*

*** Student Presentations to be Added ***

Week 14 (December 4): Transnational and Transgovernmental Actors


(Recommended):


*** Student Presentations to be Added ***

Week 15 (December 11): Final Exam

*** In-Class Final ***

Enjoy your winter break! 😊